

field in a vicinity of a field to be specified if the field information indicates that the field is an input/output field.

REMARKS

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment, captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

Fig. 6 has been amended to overcome the outstanding objection to the drawings. Withdrawal is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 has been amended to overcome the outstanding objection, without narrowing the scope of the claim. The other pending claims have been amended in the same manner. In addition, claim 12 has been canceled without prejudice. Accordingly, withdrawal of the outstanding objections is respectfully requested.

The claims have also been amended to overcome the outstanding § 112 rejection, without narrowing the scope of the claims. Reconsideration and withdrawal are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-12 stand rejected under § 102(e) on the basis of Yoshikawa et al. '516. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection because Yoshikawa et al. do not disclose (or suggest) a control name given to an output field or input-output field that is registered in memory, as in the present claims, as amended.

The invention of Yoshikawa et al. is concerned with a system for performing an on-line process between a host computer and a terminal, and enables working with an

application program under a graphical user interface (GUI) environment, even if the application program is provided with a character-based interface. According to Yoshikawa et al., a GUI processing program is automatically generated in a manner associated with the screen definition information. The generated GUI processing program then decides coordinates on a GUI screen in a manner corresponding to the name of each set of data and coordinates associated with the set of data contained in the screen definition information. This is followed by a determination of the type of GUI to be used. The type is determined using two kinds of data, the names of the data included in the screen definition information, and whether the data in question is input by or displayed for the user (see col. 3, lines 38-49).

The examiner states that col.3, lines 14-17 teaches the extraction unit in claims 1, 9 and 12. The examiner also states that col. 7, lines 18-21 teach the naming unit. However, the invention of Yoshikawa et al. merely enables converting a screen display associated with a character base user interface (CUI) into a screen display associated with a graphical user interface (GUI).

Conversely, the present invention does not make it an objective to convert a screen display associated with a character base user interface (CUI) into a screen display associated with a graphical user interface (GUI). The present invention is concerned with the manner of naming the controls associated to input and input-output fields contained in a GUI screen. According to the present invention, the developing and maintaining work of a program incorporating a GUI screen display can be performed more efficiently because these

controls are given names that are easy for a programmer to understand, based on the field information associated with the CUI screen display.

The examiner mentions col. 6, lines 42-45 and col. 7, lines 23-30 in Yoshikawa et al., where they state that a character string specified by the screen definition information is displayed on a screen. While, to this extent, the reference teaches using the field information associated with CUI display, it does not teach how the name of an input field or an input-output field (a control name) contained in a GUI screen is decided. Thus, while these two inventions resemble each other to the extent that they both are concerned with a GUI screen display apparatus, they are concerned with different objectives.

The examiner might have understood that the control names in the present invention were displayed on the GUI screen, or that claim 1 included possibly displaying a control name on a GUI screen. Claim 1 has been amended to specify that the control name is registered in memory.

In conclusion, Yoshikawa et al. do not teach how a name, given to the control associated with an output or input-output field and registered into the field information memory unit, is created and used as in the present invention. With the present invention, it is easier for a programmer or a program maintenance engineer to understand relationships between fields and various kinds of data as result of adopting, for the name of a control associated with an output field or input-output field, a character string associated with a relevant output field. None of the cited documents including Yoshikawa et al. introduce a

system or an apparatus with which it is possible to develop and maintain a program efficiently in the manner of the present invention.

For the foregoing reasons, applicants believe that this case is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The examiner should call applicants' attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By 

Patrick G. Burns
Registration No. 29,367

December 2, 2002

300 South Wacker Drive
Suite 2500
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Telephone: 312.360.0080
Facsimile: 312.360.9315
F:\DATA\WP60\1503\63657\Amend A.doc

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims:

Claims 2, 4 and 12 were canceled, without prejudice.

Claims 1, 3 and 5-11 were amended as follows:

1. (Amended) A graphical user interface GUI screen generating apparatus, comprising:

an extraction unit extracting field information associated with an output field and an input-output field from screen data of a character-based user interface screen;
and

a naming unit specifying a control name of the output field or the input-output field in a graphical user interface screen corresponding to the field information based on a character string contained in the part associated with the output field of the field information extracted from the extraction unit, and registering, in a memory unit, the control name as the control name of the output field or the input-output field, whichever is relevant.

3. (Amended) The GUI-graphical user interface screen generating apparatus according to claim 1, wherein if the field information indicates that a field is an

input/output field, said naming unit specifies a control name of the field based on a field character string of an output field in a vicinity of a field to be named.

5. (Amended) The GUI-graphical user interface screen generating apparatus according to claim 1, wherein if the field information indicates that a field is an input/output field, said naming unit specifies a control name of the field based on a field character string of an output field which is before a field to be specified and exists closest to the field.

6. (Amended) The GUI-graphical user interface screen generating apparatus according to claim 4, wherein when specifying the control name based on the field character string, said naming unit adds a specific character string to a registered control name or control name to be specified in such a way that the name may not be the same as an already registered control name.

7. (Amended) The GUI-graphical user interface screen generating apparatus according to claim 5, wherein when specifying the control name based on the field character string, said naming unit adds a specific character string to a registered control name or control name to be specified in such a way that the name may not be the same as an already registered control name.

8. (Amended) The GUI-graphical user interface screen generating apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said naming unit specifies a control name of a GUI screen according to a group of predetermined control name specifying regulations.

9. (Amended) A GUI-graphical user interface screen generating method, comprising:

extracting field information associated with an output field and an input-output field from screen data of a character-based user interface screen; and

specifying a control name of the output field or the input-output field in a graphical user interface screen corresponding to based on a character string contained in the part associated with the output field of the field information based on the extracted field information, and registering, in a memory unit, the control name as the control name of the output field or the input-output field, whichever is relevant.

10. (Amended) A computer-readable storage medium on which is recorded a graphical user interface GUI screen generation program enabling a computer to extract field information associated with an output field and an input-output field from screen data of a character-based user interface screen and to specify a control name of the output field or the input-output field in a graphical user interface screen corresponding to the field

information based on a character string contained in the part associated with the output field of the extracted field information, and registering, in a memory unit, the control name as the control name of the output field or the input-output field, whichever is relevant.

11. (Amended) The computer-readable storage medium according to claim 10 on which is recorded a ~~GUI~~graphical user interface screen generation program enabling a computer to specify a control name of the field based on a field character string of an output field in a vicinity of a field to be specified if the field information indicates that the field is an input/output field.

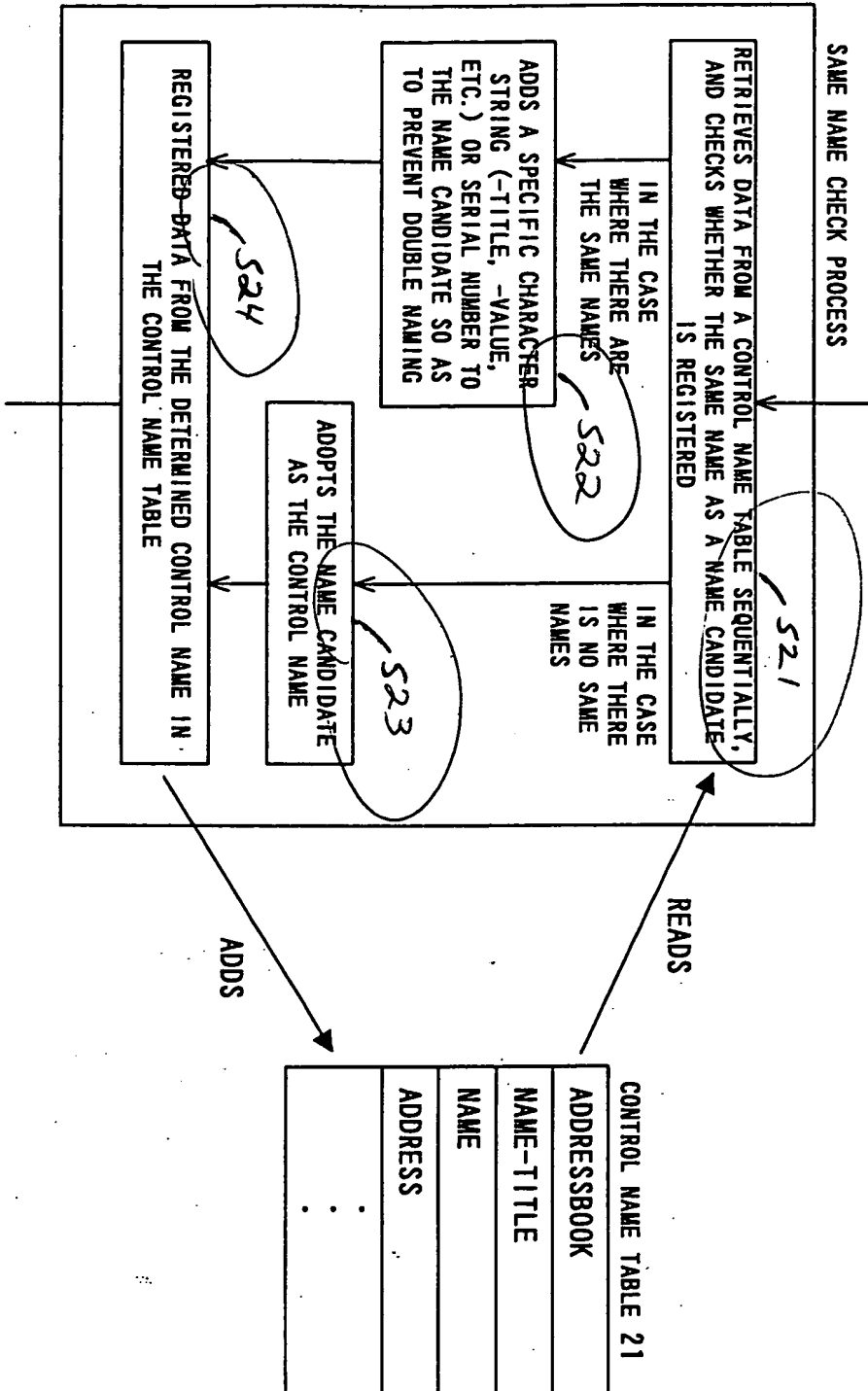


FIG. 6